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DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE
Intelligence Information Handling Committee

IHC/MM 78-03
31 January 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR: IHC Members

FROM:

SUBJECT: Report to the Senate Select Committee (Intelligence)
on Community Information Handling

1. The attached report was prepared in response to the request by the Senate Select Committee (Intelligence) about Community automatic data processing assets and management. [redacted] the Acting Deputy to the DCI for the Intelligence Community, has asked me to forward the report in draft form to you for information and comment from your department/agency.

2. The report and Annexes A-F, reflecting any further changes, will be forwarded to the Senate Select Committee on or before 11 February. Every attempt will be made to take your comments into account provided they can be furnished on or before 7 February. Comments received thereafter will be considered in subsequent planning and follow-on reports.

3. The materials forwarded herewith consist of the report and Annexes A-E. Annex F, omitted here, consists only of data submissions previously provided by your organizations.

4. Please send comments to Chairman IHC by courier, or if sent via interagency mail, please use the following address:

Chairman, DCI Intelligence Information Handling Committee
% - CIA
Community Headquarters Building
Room BW09

Attachment:

Draft report and Annexes A, B, C, D and E

This document may be declassified upon
removal of attachments.

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REPORT TO THE SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE (INTELLIGENCE)

on

INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT AND USE
OF ADP AND INFORMATION HANDLING RESOURCES

February 1978

The Director of Central Intelligence

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REPORT TO THE CONGRESS

on

INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT AND USE
OF ADP AND INFORMATION HANDLING RESOURCES

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REPORT TO THE SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE (INTELLIGENCE)

on

INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT AND USE
OF ADP-TELECOMMUNICATION RESOURCES

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

STAT 1.1 ☐ Scope and Focus. This report identifies the major ADP-Telecommunications (ADP-T) resources included within the National Foreign Intelligence Program (NFIP). The report describes the support ADP-T provides to the missions, functions, and activities of the U.S. Intelligence agencies. The report also proposes certain new initiatives aimed at improving the management of this diverse and highly complex family of resources at the DCI level.

STAT 1.2 ☐ The Central Problem. The information handling systems and data bases used in the Intelligence Community have been designed, developed, and implemented on a highly differentiated basis. Because the goals and objectives of individual agencies and departments are dissimilar, the management of ADP support has evolved decentrally. Decentralization has introduced highly effective ADP-T management,

but only on an institution-by-institution basis. The historic lack of a viable DCI-level strategic ADP-T plan has allowed ADP costs to grow over the past decade to the point where it is now legitimate to question if the desired amount of decentralization has not been surpassed.

1.3 ADP Costs and Trends. The cost of major

ADP-T resources in the FY 1978 NFIP is approximately \$285 million--excluding such resources that are integral to certain technical collection systems. In 1970, ADP cost \$150 million. In current dollar terms, e.g. in terms which do not account for inflation, ADP costs have about doubled.

In the light of the growing proliferation of collected information, particularly in the near-real time collection environment, and the increasing flexibility of equipment, ADP costs are not expected to decrease. Since 1970, the Community has invested about \$1.7 billion dollars in achieving its present level of ADP-T capability. This total includes over 500 computers. DoD intelligence accounts for about 85 percent of this total; non-defense ADP, i.e., CIA, State, etc. account

for the remaining 15 percent. Fifty-five percent of defense computers support the mission of the National Security Agency. Because telecommunications and computer internetting is increasingly linking overseas locations to Washington area headquarters, telecommunication costs may soon achieve a growth rate similar to ADP.

1.4 Data Bases and Major Intelligence Functional

Activities. Annex F identifies 467 automated data bases upon which analysts heavily depend. The data bases are mainly sponsored and maintained by NSA, DIA, CIA and the three Armed Services. Of this total, about 170 are available either through the Community On-Line Intelligence System (COINS) or the DIA On-Line Intelligence System (DIAOLS). Many other data bases exist but are not addressed in this report, because most are the desk-side working files of analysts which are neither shared or placed in centralized reference systems. The data bases and information handling systems reported herein provide support to the following major intelligence functions: Collection Management; Processing of collected information; Intelligence Production; Administrative Management; Communications; and Research and Development.

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1.5 ☐ The Management Task. The DCI's near-term task is to bring together these diverse information handling capabilities into a more cost-effective resource management structure. The major/^{immediate}challenge is the identification, analysis, and technical evaluation of resource issues related to ADP funding proposals submitted to the DCI in the course of annual budget formulation. The goal is to establish interrelated and mutually-supporting capabilities to maximize benefits to the Community at large as well as to accomplish agency-unique tasks. The major long-range challenge is comprehensive but collaborative planning to achieve a balanced ADP-T structure that will meet community and customer future needs.

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1.6 ☐ DCI Management Approach.

(1) A DCI focal point is required for ADP-T resource analysis and technical evaluation. This will be accomplished thru a Community Information Systems Office (CISO)-a new organization that is being formed under the DCI's Deputy for Resource Management.

(2) The operation of information handling systems and the maintenance of data bases will remain decentralized among designated intelligence organizations.

(3) CISO will plan centrally, identify ADP-T issues, and recommend funding levels for the complex of information handling systems and assets the Community requires.

(4) Implementation of CISO recommendations will be accomplished through the annual program/budget cycle. As short and long range plans are developed and approved, the CISO will increasingly serve the DCI as his source of ADP-T planning, programming and budgeting guidance. Close coordination between CISO, other elements of the DCI's Deputy for Resource Management, and ADP-T offices in the Intelligence Community is essential.

STAT 1.7 ☐ Specific Issues. The CISO will address a variety of ADP-T issues involving systems, data bases, technology, and general management. For example, issues are required which identify the potential costs and tangible benefits from the use of automation to share a particular data base. If a data base is to be shared more extensively, a technical evaluation is required to generate standards with respect to maintenance, completeness, formatting and timeliness.

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As a result of these evaluations, the CISO, in conjunction with the NFIB, will work out new interagency policies, guidance agreements and commitments. Technical issues include an attack on computer security which is of particular concern to the Intelligence Community. This will require new policy statements on security standards, followed by technical studies to apply such policies to operating systems. Standardization issues deal with telecommunications protocols for data transmission, evaluation of work toward developing a common query language to access data bases, and evaluations of costs vs. benefits in data element standardization. General management issues include: evaluation of trade-offs between satisfying requirements in automated vs. non-automated ways, insuring effective use of off-the-shelf equipment, development of specially-designed equipment for peculiar intelligence applications, and establishment of broader policies and procedures than now exist to standardize procurement and maintenance ADP-T resources.

STAT 1.8 ☐ Near Term Actions. To move ahead decisively, the following near-term actions will be undertaken in 1978:

*Security
contingency
planning*

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* - Establish CISO as a central planning organization in February 1978 as a part of the DCI's Resource Management Staff. Beginning with the FY-80 budget, CISO will:

* - Review annual NFIP resource requests and identify ADP-T issues needing DCI resolution.

* - Begin a formal and continuous dialogue with ADP-T offices in the Intelligence Community as well as program managers to keep abreast of operating systems, systems under development, and new ADP initiatives.

* - Respond to Congressional needs for ADP-T information as required. Begin identifying and examining major FY 79-84 issues as previously requested by SSCI.

* - Undertake selected studies and technical evaluations in problem areas in support of resource management decision making.

* - Undertake actions to evaluate the feasibility of a "Community Information Handling System (CIHS)."

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1.9 ☐ Longer-Term Actions. Given a fully operational staff and facilities, the CISO will be in a position to carry out the orderly work program to develop central planning mechanisms and undertake the implementation of a long-range ADP-T plan for the U.S. Intelligence Community.